

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 ABF-01 AID-20 DRC-01 RSC-01 /046 W  
----- 070359

R 211400Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4747

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AR

SUBJECT: OPERATING BUDGET FOR EMBASSY NARCOTICS COORDINATOR

1. THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE DEC 3-4 BOGOTA CONFERENCE WILL RECALL THAT THE SUBJECT OF OPERATING FUNDS FOR NARCOTICS COORDINATOR WAS THE SUBJECT OF A SHORT BUT LIVELY DISCUSSION, PARTICULARLY AS RELATED TO THE THREE NEW FULLTIME COORDINATOR POSITIONS WHICH WERE CREATED AND STAFFED AFTER THE START OF FY74, AND WHOSE OPERATING NEEDS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN FORESEEN.

2. WE HAVE REVIEWED THE PROPOSED OPERATIONS OF THE BUENOS AIRES NARCOTICS COORDINATOR IN LIGHT OF THE COUNTRY ACTION PLAN, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO PORTIONS WHICH RELATE TO THE WASHINGTON-APPROVED BORDER PATROL STRIKE FORCE AND TO REGIONAL COOPERATION. THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTS OUR ESTIMATES FOR THE MINIMAL TRAVEL/REPRESENTATION COSTS FOR THE BALANCE OF FY74, AS WELL AS FY75.

A) INTERNAL TRAVEL:

I. ONE TRIP TO NORTHWEST ARGENTINA (7TH GROUPMENT OF THE BORDER PATROL) FOR TERRAIN FAMILIARIZATION AND REVIEW OF THE SURFACE TRAFFICKING PROBLEM WITH BP AND OTHER CONCERNED OFFICIALS. \$220.

II. ONE TRIP TO WESTERN REGION (MENDOZA) HEADQUARTERS OF THE BORDER PATROL TO CONFER WITH BP COMMAND AND STAFF OFFICERS ON THE INITIAL

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PLANNING FOR THE BORDER PATROL STRIKE FORCE. \$220.

B) REPRESENTATIONAL TRAVEL:

THE PROPOSED BORDER PATROL STRIKE FORCE WILL BE A UNILATERAL GOA OPERATION, BASICALLY OPERATING INDEPENDENTLY OF BOT THE FEDERAL POLICE (NARCOTICS) AND THE DEA. IT IS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE THAT CONATON (THE GOA INTERMINISTERIAL POLICY BODY FOR NARCOTICS) BE FULLY INVOLVED FIRST IN THE PLANNING AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION/OPERATION PHASES OF THE BP FORCE. SINCE THE CONATON EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, AS OF NOW, HAS NO TRAVEL FUNDS. IF NECESSARY WE PROPOSE TO ASSUME HIS TRAVEL/PER DIEM COSTS UNDER REPRESENTATIONAL TRAVEL FOR W A I AND 2 AII ABOVE. TOTAL COST \$440.

C) INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:

ONE TRIP TO LA PAZ TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF GOA AND GOB INTERFACE IN ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS ON COMMON BORDER, TOGETHER WITH EXAMINATION OF SUCH ADJUSTMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO THE TWO CAPS. \$400.

D) REPRESENTATIONAL FUNDS:

IN ORDER TO FURTHER US INTERESTS, INSOFAR AS THEY RELATE TO THE GOA/USG JOINT EFFORT AT INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL THE SUM OF \$250 WILL HAVE TO BE EXPENDED DURING THE BALANCE OF FY74.

3. RE FY 75, EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PREPARED AND SUBMITTED ITS BUDGET ESTIMATES PRIOR TO THE ARRIVAL OF ITS FIRST FULLTIME NARCOTICS COORDINATOR. THE EMBASSY SUPPORTS, BUT WAS UNABLE TO BUDGET FOR, THE FOLLOWING OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN FY75:

A) INTERNAL TRAVEL:

THREE TRIPS TO NORTHER AND WESTERN ARGENTINA TO MONITOR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BORDER PATROL ACTIVITIES IN NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION. \$660.

B) REPRESENTATIONAL TRAVEL:

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WE WOULD PROPOSE TO ISSUE REPRESENTATIONAL TRAVEL ORDERS EITHER TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF CONATON OR TO AN APPROPRIATE BORDER PATROL OFFICER, TO ACCOMPANY ON EACH TRIP. \$660.

C) INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:

ONE TRIP EACH TO CONFER WITH NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICERS IN MONTEVIDEO, ASUNCION AND SANTIAGO. \$550.

D) REPRESENTATIONAL FUNDS:

IN ORDER TO FURTHER US INTERESTS INSOFAR AS THEY DIRECTLY RELATE TO THE SUPPRESSION OF NARCOTICS, SOME \$500 WILL BE NEEDED TO BE EXPENDED DURING FY75.

4. IN SUBMITTING THESE ESTIMATES, WE WISH TO UNDERScore THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) THEY REPRESENT ONLY THE MINIMAL OPERATING COSTS WHICH MUST BE BORNE IF EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES NARCOTICS COORDINATORS OFFICE IS TO FUNCTION FULLY AND EFFECTIVELY. NOT INCLUDED ARE SUCH POSSIBLE CONTINGENCY ITEMS AS THE EMPLOYMENT OF A LOCAL LAW FIRM, SHOULD THE OCCASION ARISE AND APPROPRIATE AUTHORIZATION GIVEN, SUCH ITEMS WILL, OF NECESSITY, BE PRESENTED SEPARATELY AS EACH OCCASION ARISES.

B) THE INVITATIONAL TRAVEL REQUEST MUST BE CONSIDERED AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE OPERATING BUDGET. ALTHOUGH THE GOA SHOWS WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE ON THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM IT IS ONE WHICH IT STILL VIEWS AS AN AMERICAN SOCIAL PROBLE. WE BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL ALLOCATE MOST NEEDED RESOURCES IN TERMS OF MANPOWER AND COMMODITIES. HOWEVER, THE GOA FACES BUDGETARY PROBLEMS WHICH IN THEIR EYES ARE PROPORTIONATELY MORE SERIOUS THAN OURS. WE CANN NOT EXPECT THE GOA AS AN INSTITUTION TO ALLOCATE ALL THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES WHICH THE USG AS NA INSTITUTION TRULY BELIEVES NECESSARY. WE MUST BE PREPARED TO ABSORB SOME OURSELVES.

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R 211400Z DEC 73

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4748

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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C) THE EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMPLY CANNOT MEET THE ABOVE

OPERATIONAL COSTS WITHIN ITS EXISTING BUDGETS FOR FY74 AND FY75. EACH WAS PARED BEFORE SUBMISSION, AND FY74 SUBSEQUENTLY CORED IN WASHINGTON. AS A RESULT CURRENTLY ALL TRAVEL AND REPRESENTATION MONEYS ARE FROZEN. THE NARCOTICS COORDINATOR EXPECTS TO GO OUT OF POCKET ON REPRESENTATION, AND THE ESTIMATES PRESENTED REFLECT THIS. HE IS PREPARED, IF NECESSARY, TO GO OUT OF POCKET IN ORDER TO TRAVEL INTERNALLY IF NECESSARY TO HELP ACCOMPLISH THE APPROVED GOAL OF INVOLVING THE BORDER PATROL IN THE GOA ENFORCEMENT EFFORT. HOWEVER, WE DOUBT IF THE GOA PERSONNEL CONCERNED ARE WILLING TO PERSONALLY FINANCE THEIR COSTS AND WITHOUT GOA/BUENOS AIRES INPUT IN THE PROVINCES THE ONSTREAM TIMETABLE COULD BE RETARDED.

ACTION REQUESTED:

5. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE REQUEST FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL - OR EVEN SEPARATE - OPERATING BUDGET FOR ONE ELEMENT OF THE EMBASSY IS UNUSUAL. HOWEVER, AS WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT ALSO RECOGNIZES, THE FUNCTIONS AND OPERATIONS OF A NARCOTICS COORDINATOR ARE UNUSUAL, PARTICULARLY WHEN COMPARED TO THE MORE TRADITIONAL EMBASSY SECTIONS. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TASK NEED NOT BE STRESSED: BY CREATING THE POSITION CONCERNED WASHINGTON AGENCIES IMPLICITLY RECOGNIZE IT. THEREFORE, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT (A) REVIEW EXISTING FUNDING PROCEDURES (B) THE BUDGET ALLOCATIONS TO EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES, AND (C) ALLOCATE FROM THE APPROPRIATE SOURCES \$1,440 FOR FY 74 AND \$2,150 FOR FY 75 FOR THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF EMBASSY BUENOS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AIRES NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICE.  
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